This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (original) An antibody comprising a variant heavy chain hinge region incapable of inter-heavy chain disulfide linkage.

2. (original) The antibody of claim 1, wherein said variant heavy chain hinge region lacks a cysteine residue capable of forming a disulfide linkage.

3. (original) The antibody of claim 2, wherein said disulfide linkage is intermolecular.

4. (original) The antibody of claim 3, wherein said intermolecular disulfide linkage is between cysteines of two immunoglobulin heavy chains.

5. (currently amended) The antibody of ~~any of claims 1-4~~ claim 1, wherein a hinge region cysteine residue that is normally capable of forming a disulfide linkage is deleted.

6. (currently amended) The antibody of ~~any of claims 1-4~~ claim 1, wherein a hinge region cysteine residue that is normally capable of forming a disulfide linkage is substituted with another amino acid.

7. (currently amended) The antibody of claim 6, wherein said cysteine residue is substituted with serine.

8. (currently amended) The antibody of ~~any of claims 1-4~~ claim 1, which is a full-length antibody.

9. (original) The antibody of claim 8, wherein said full-length antibody comprises a heavy chain and a light chain.

10. (currently amended) The antibody of ~~any of claims 1-9~~ claim 1, wherein said antibody is humanized.

11. (currently amended) The antibody of ~~any of claims 1-9~~ claim 1, wherein said antibody is human.

12. (currently amended) The antibody of ~~any of claims 1-7 and 10-11~~ claim 1, which is an antibody fragment.

13. (currently amended) The antibody of claim 12, wherein said antibody fragment is an Fc fusion polypeptide.

14. (currently amended) The antibody of ~~any of claims 1-12~~ claim 1, wherein said antibody comprises a heavy chain constant domain and a light chain constant domain.

15. (currently amended) The antibody of claim 1, which is selected from the group consisting of IgG, IgA and IgD.

16. (currently amended) The antibody of claim 15, which is IgG.

17. (currently amended) The antibody of claim 16, which is IgG1.

18. (currently amended) The antibody of claim 17, which is IgG2.

19. (currently amended) The antibody of ~~any of claims 1-18~~ claim 1, which is a therapeutic antibody.

20. (currently amended) The antibody of ~~any of claims 1-19~~ claim 1, which is an agonist antibody.

21. (currently amended) The antibody of ~~any of claims 1-19~~ claim 1, which is an

antagonistic antibody.

22. (currently amended) The antibody of ~~any of claims 1-18~~ claim 1, which is a diagnostic antibody.

23. (currently amended) The antibody of ~~any of claims 1-22~~ claim 1, which is a blocking antibody.

24. (currently amended) The antibody of ~~any of claims 1-23~~ claim 1, which is a neutralizing antibody.

25. (currently amended) The antibody of ~~any of claims 1-24~~ claim 1, which is capable of binding to a tumor antigen.

26. (currently amended) The antibody of claim 25, wherein the tumor antigen is not a cell surface molecule.

27. (currently amended) The antibody of claim 25, wherein said tumor antigen is not a cluster differentiation factor.

28. (currently amended) The antibody of ~~any of claims 1-24~~ claim 1, which is capable of binding to a cluster differentiation factor.

29. (currently amended) The antibody of ~~any of claims 1-24~~ claim 1, which is capable of binding to a cell survival regulatory factor.

30. (currently amended) The antibody of ~~any of claims 1-24~~ claim 1, which is capable of binding specifically to a cell proliferation regulatory factor.

31. (currently amended) The antibody of ~~any of claims 1-24~~ claim 1,which is capable of binding to a molecule associated with tissue development or differentiation.

32. (currently amended) The antibody of ~~any of claims 1-24~~ claim 1, which is capable of binding to a cell surface molecule.

33. (currently amended) The antibody of ~~any of claims 1-24~~ claim 1, which is capable of binding to a cell surface molecule.

34. (currently amended) The antibody of ~~any of claims 1-24~~ claim 1, which is capable of binding to a cytokine.

35. (currently amended) The antibody of ~~any of claims 1-24~~ claim 1, which is capable of binding to a molecule involved in cell cycle regulation.

36. (currently amended) The antibody of ~~any of claims 1-24~~ claim 1, which is capable of binding to a molecule involved in vasculogenesis.

37. (currently amended) The antibody of ~~any of claims 1-24~~ claim 1, which is capable of binding to a molecule associated with angiogenesis.

38. (currently amended) The antibody of ~~any of claims 1-24~~ claim 1, which is aglycosylated.

39. (currently amended) The antibody of ~~any of claims 1-38~~ claim 1, which is aglycosylated.

40. (original) An antibody lacking inter-heavy chain disulfide linkage.

41. (original) The antibody of claim 40, wherein said inter-heavy chain disulfide linkage is between Fc regions.

42. (currently amended) An immnoconjugate comprising the antibody of ~~any of claims 1-24~~ claim 1 conjugated with a heterologous moiety.

43. (original) The immunoconjugate of claim 42, wherein said heterologous moiety is a cytotoxic agent.

44. (original) The immunoconjugate of claim 43, wherein said cytotoxic agent is selected from the group consisting of a radioactive isotope, a chemotherapeutic agent and a toxin.

45. (original) The immunoconjugate of claim 44, wherein the toxin is selected from the group consisting of calichemicin, maytansine and trichothene.

46. (original) The immunoconjugate of claim 42, wherein said heterologous moiety is a detectable marker.

47. (original) The immunoconjugate of claim 46, wherein said detectable marker is selected from the group consisting of a radioactive isotope, a member of a ligand-receptor pair, a member of an enzyme-substrate pair and a member of a fluorescence resonance energy transfer pair.

48. (currently amended) A composition comprising the antibody of ~~any of claims 1-24~~ claim 1 and a carrier.

49. (currently amended) The composition of claim 48, wherein the carrier is pharmaceutically acceptable.

50. (currently amended) A composition comprising the immunoconjugate of ~~any of claims 42-47~~ claim 42 and a carrier.

51. (original) The composition of claim 50, wherein the carrier is pharmaceutically acceptable.

52. (currently amended) An article of manufacture comprising a container and a composition contained therein, wherein the composition comprises the antibody of ~~any of claims 1-24~~ claim 1.

53. (currently amended) An article of manufacture comprising a container and a composition contained therein, wherein the composition comprises the immunoconjugate of ~~any of claims 42-47~~ claim 42.

54. (currently amended) The article of manufacture of claims 52 or 53, further comprising instruction for using said composition.

55. (currently amended) A polynucleotide encoding the antibody or immunoconjugate of ~~any of claims 1-46~~ claims 1 or 42.

56. (original) A polynucleotide encoding a variant immunoglobulin heavy chain incapable of inter-heavy chain disulfide linkage.

57. (currently amended) The polynucleotide of claim 56, wherein said variant heavy chain comprises a variant hinge region lacking a cysteine residue capable of forming a disulfide linkage.

58. (currently amended) A recombinant vector for expressing the antibody or immunoconjugate of any of claims 1[[-47]] or 42.

59. (original) A host cell comprising the recombinant vector of claim 58.

60. (original) The host cell of claim 59 which is a prokaryotic cell.

61. (original) The host cell of claim 60 which is a gram-negative bacterial cell.

62. (original) The host cell of claim 61 which is E. coli.

63. (original) The host cell of claim 62, further comprising a polynucleotide encoding at least one prokaryotic polypeptide selected from the group consisting of DsbA, DsbC, DsbG and

FkpA.

64. (original) The host cell of claim 63, wherein the polynucleotide encodes both DsbA and DsbC.

65. (original) The host cell of claim 62, wherein the E. coil is of a strain deficient in endogenous protease activities.

66. (original) A method comprising expressing in a host cell an antibody of interest in which at least one inter-heavy chain disulfide linkage is eliminated, and recovering said antibody from the host cell.

67. (original) The method of claim 66, wherein at least two inter-heavy chain disulfide linkages of the antibody of interest are eliminated.

68. (original) The method of claim 66, wherein all inter-heavy chain disulfide linkages of the antibody of interest are eliminated.

69. (original) The method of claim 66, wherein said antibody comprises a variant hinge region of an immunoglobulin heavy chain, wherein said variant hinge region lacks at least one of the cysteine residues normally capable of forming a disulfide linkage.

70. (original) The method of claim 69, wherein said variant hinge region lacks at least two of the cysteine residues normally capable of forming a disulfide linkage.

71. (currently amended) The method of claim 69 ~~& 70~~, wherein said variant hinge region lacks all of the cysteine residues normally capable of forming a disulfide linkage.

72. (original) The method of claim 69, wherein a cysteine of the hinge region normally capable of forming a disulfide linkage is deleted or substituted with another amino acid.

73. (original) The method of claim 72, wherein said cysteine residue is substituted with serine.

74. (currently amended) The method of ~~any of claims 66-73~~ claim 66, wherein said antibody is a full-length antibody.

75. (currently amended) The method of any ~~any of claims 66-74~~ claim 66, wherein said antibody is humanized.

76. (currently amended) The method of ~~any of claims 66-75~~ claim 66, wherein said antibody is human.

77. (currently amended) The method of ~~any of claims 66-73 and 75-76~~ claim 66, wherein said antibody is an antibody fragment.

78. (original) The method of claim 77, wherein said antibody fragment is an Fc fusion polypeptide.

79. (currently amended) The method of ~~any of claims 66-77~~ claim 66, wherein said antibody comprises a heavy chain constant domain and a light chain constant domain.

80. (currently amended) The method of ~~any of claims 66-79~~ claim 66, wherein said antibody is selected from the group consisting of IgG, IgA and IgD.

81. (currently amended) The method of ~~any of claims 66-68~~ claim 66, wherein said antibody is selected from the group consisting of IgG, IgA, IgE, IgM and IgD.

82. (currently amended) The method of ~~claims 80 or 81~~ claim 80, wherein the antibody is IgG.

83. (original) The method of claim 82, where said antibody is IgGl or IgG2.

84. (currently amended) The method of ~~any of claims 66-83~~ claim 66, wherein said antibody is selected from the group consisting of therapeutic, agonist, antagonistic, diagnostic, blocking and neutralizing antibody.

85. (currently amended) The method of ~~any of claims 66-84~~ claim 66, wherein heavy and light chains of said antibody are encoded by a single polynucleotide.

86. (currently amended) The method of ~~any of claims 66-84~~ claim 66, wherein heavy and light chains of said antibody are encoded by separate polynucleotides.

87. (currently amended) The method of ~~any of claims 66-86~~ claim 66, further comprising determining that the antibody that is recovered is biologically active.

88. (currently amended) The method of ~~any of claims 66-87~~ claim 66, wherein the amount of said antibody of interest produced is at least about 10% greater than the amount of a reference antibody expressed under similar conditions, wherein said reference antibody has a wild type ability to form disulfide linkages.

89. (original) The method of claim 88, wherein said antibody of interest comprises a variant immunoglobulin heavy chain hinge region lacking at least one of the cysteine residues normally capable of forming a disulfide linkage, and wherein said reference antibody comprises an immunoglobulin heavy chain hinge region that is the wild type counterpart of the hinge region of the antibody of interest.

90. (original) The method of claim 88, wherein the amount is at least about 25%.

91. (original) The method of claim 90, wherein the amount is at least about 50%.

92. (original) The method of claim 91, wherein the amount is at least about 75%.

93. (currently amended) The method of ~~any of claims 66-92~~ claim 66, wherein the antibody of interest and reference antibody have substantially similar antigen binding capabilities.

94. (currently amended) The method of ~~any of claims 66-92~~ claim 66, wherein the antibody of interest and reference antibody have substantially similar FcRn binding capabilities.

95. (currently amended) The method of ~~any of claims 66-92~~ claim 66, wherein the antibody of interest and reference antibody have substantially similar pharmacokinetic values.

96. (currently amended) The method of ~~any of claims 66-95~~ claim 66, wherein said host cell is prokaryotic.

97. (original) The method of claim 96, wherein said host cell is a gram-negative bacterial cell.

98. (original) The method of claim 97, wherein said host cell is E. coli.

99. (original) The method of claim 96, further comprising expressing in the host cell a polynucleotide encoding at least one prokaryotic polypeptide selected from the group consisting of DsbA, DsbC, DsbG and FkpA.

100. (original) The method of claim 99, wherein the polynucleotide encodes both DsbA and DsbC.

101. (original) The method of claim 98, wherein the E. coli is of a strain deficient in endogenous protease activities.

102. (original) An aglycosylated antibody produced by the method of ~~any of claims 66-101~~ claim 66.

103. (currently amended) The method of ~~any of claims 66-101~~ claim 66, wherein said

antibody is recovered from cell lysate.

104. (currently amended) The method of ~~any of claims 66-101~~ claim 66, wherein said antibody is recovered from culture medium or the periplasm.

105. (original) A method comprising:

expressing in a prokaryotic host cell a variant immunoglobulin heavy chain,

said variant immunoglobulin heavy chain comprising a reduced ability to form a disulfide linkage such that amount of self aggregation of the variant immunoglobulin heavy chain is less than the amount of self aggregation of a reference immunoglobulin heavy chain when expressed under similar conditions,

wherein the reference immunoglobulin heavy chain has a wild type ability to form a disulfide linkage.

106. (original) The method of claim 105, wherein said variant immunoglobulin heavy chain comprises a hinge region in which at least one cysteine is rendered in capable of forming a disulfide linkage and wherein the hinge region of the reference immunoglobulin heavy chain is the wild type counterpart of the hinge region of the variant heavy chain.

107. (original) The method of claim 106, wherein at least two cysteines are rendered incapable of forming a disulfide linkage.

108. (currently amended) The method of claim[[s]] 106, wherein all cysteines are rendered incapable of forming a disulfide linkage.

109. (currently amended) The method of ~~any of claims 106-108~~ claim 106, wherein said cysteine is normally capable of intermolecular disulfide linkage.

110. (currently amended) The method of ~~any of claims 106-109~~ claim 106, wherein the amount of aggregation of the variant heavy chain is at least about 10% less than the amount of self aggregation of the reference immunoglobulin heavy chain.

111. (original) The method of claim 110, wherein the amount of aggregation of the variant heavy chain is at least about 25% less than the amount of self aggregation of the reference immunoglobulin heavy chain.

112. (original) The method of claim 111, wherein the amount of aggregation of the variant heavy chain is at least about 50% less than the amount of aggregation of the reference immunoglobulin heavy chain.

113. (original) The amount of claim 112, wherein the amount of aggregation of the variant heavy chain is at least about 75% less than the amount of self aggregation of the reference immunoglobulin heavy chain.

114. (currently amended) The method of ~~any of claims 105-113~~ claim 105, wherein the host cell is prokaryotic.

115. (currently amended) A method of treating a disease in a subject comprising administering an effective amount of the antibody of ~~any of claims 1-21 and 23-41~~ claim 1 or the immunoconjugate of ~~any of claims 42-45~~ claim 42 to the subject, whereby said disease is treated.

116. (currently amended) A method of diagnosing a disease in a subject patient comprising contacting the antibody of ~~any of claims 1-21 and 23-41~~ claim 1 or the immunoconjugate of ~~any of claims 46-47~~ claim 46 with the subject or a tissue sample obtained from the subject, and determining amount of binding of the antibody or immunoconjugate to an antigen in the subject or tissue sample, whereby a difference in amount of said binding compared to binding in a reference subject or tissue sample is indicative of presence or extent of the disease in the subject patient.

117. (currently amended) A method of delaying or preventing a disease in a subject comprising administering an effective amount of the antibody of ~~any of claims 1-21 and 23-41~~ claim 1 or the immunoconjugate of ~~any of claims 42-45~~ claim 42 to the subject, whereby said

disease is delayed or prevented in the subject.

118. (currently amended) The method of ~~any of claims 115-117~~ claim 115, wherein the disease is a tumor.

119. (currently amended) The method of ~~any of claims 115-117~~ claim 115, wherein the disease is a cancer.

120. (currently amended) The method of ~~any of claims 115-117~~ claim 115, wherein the disease is an immune disorder.